

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats. a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 5:15 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Jack Krueger—Chair, Jim Haskins, Duane "Snake" Pierce, Don Bettine,
John Walschinski, Sherry Steenbock – Vice Chair, Joe Witkowski.
EXCUSED: John Maino, Troy Ness, Kristen Verhaagh.
ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Polus.

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1138

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Krueger at 5:15 p.m.

2. **Invocation by Jim Haskins.**

3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BETTINE AND SECONDED BY WALSCHINSKI TO APPROVE. Vote taken. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. **Approve/Modify Minutes of April 13, 2010 and May 12, 2010.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY HASKINS AND SECONDED BY PIERCE TO APPROVE. Vote taken. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **Approve Joe Witkowski as Member of Committee.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY HASKINS AND SECONDED BY STEENBOCK TO APPROVE. Vote taken. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. **Report from CVSO Jerry Polus (if available).**

One Sunday, June 13, 2010 Jerry will be participating in phase one of the reintegration of a returning Air Force unit. This will be taking place at the Hotel Sierra, 333 Main St. On Wednesday, June 16, there will be a Veterans Job Fair at the Army National Guard Armory, 800 N. Military Ave, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jerry will be in attendance to speak about veterans support services. 'Operation Freedom' (See attachment) will be held on Saturday, July 3 at the Milwaukee County Zoo from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This event is free for Veterans and their families, with wristband. This includes free entrance to zoo, free parking, and free rides on the Zoo train, carousel, Zoo mobile, Sea Lion Show, and Dinosaur Adventure. Wristbands are available through the Veterans Office.

a) **Report on the Band for the Brown County Fair.**

Jerry spoke with Kathy Kocken; the National Guard band is not available. The Allouez and Howard-Suamico bands are unavailable as well. Kathy hopes to know by the end of the week of June 14th if the Navy band will be available to play for the Fair. The committee would like Kathy to attend next month's meeting. Polus had been informed that if the Navy band would be unable to perform in the timeslot of noon to 1 p.m.; however, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. would be suitable.

Polus plans to print tickets and posters once it is confirmed with Kocken that the Navy band will or will not be available to play. He is confident that it shouldn't take more than 48 hours to get these printed. His target date to have this completed is June 30th. Polus requested that the committee assist in handing out posters to places such as the ADRC, Job Center, etc. Tickets will be sold through the Veteran's office and ADRC.

Polus drafted an announcement (See attachment) to send to Veterans organizations regarding the "Veterans Day at the Brown County Fair". The committee reviewed the document and agreed that it should be sent out Wednesday, June 9th.

7. **Approve the Funds for Purchase of T-Shirts for Fair Prizes.**

Polus presented a sample of the T-Shirt to the committee. The committee agreed to change the shirt layout to have logos from all of the branches of the military on the back of the shirt, and the Brown County Veterans logo on the front. Haskins commented that gray would be a good color for the shirt. Bettine questioned whether changing the layout of the shirt would increase the printing cost. Polus will be checking into this. There was an inquiry as to whether Maino had let the committee know what he would be providing for prizes. Krueger answered that he would be verifying this information with Maino.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BETTINE AND SECONDED BY HASKINS TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$250 FOR T-SHIRTS FOR THE BROWN COUNTY FAIR. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There was a question of the availability of T-Shirts for sale at the fair. Krueger answered that if this was the wish of the committee it could be done. Polus stated that T-Shirts could be available for sale in the Veteran's Department store. There was also a question as to whether shirts had been sold at the previous holding of this event. Pierce stated that yes there had; they had been sold for \$10 per shirt. The committee discussed giving away 15 shirts as prizes and selling the rest to veterans. It was questioned what else they would be giving out as prizes if this were the case. It was suggested that stickers and coffee cups also be given away. Krueger suggested revisiting this issue in the next meeting. Krueger also suggested taking orders for T-Shirts.

8. **Feasibility of Sponsors for Regular Scheduled Veteran Media Information Program. Not Covered**

9. **Report from Chair Jack Krueger.**

Krueger commented that he thought LZ Lambeau had been done tastefully. He stated that if there were to be another, he would bring up the suggestions of the subcommittee to the LZ Lambeau committee. The Veteran's Recognition committee members felt that there had not been enough patriotic music and suggested that there be a time in the program for veterans to stand and be recognized. The committee agreed that since it was the first, there were bound to be some bumps in the road, but overall they felt that it had been a success. Also, the committee felt that the broadcast of some of the LZ Lambeau ceremonies had been very well done.

10. Report from Committee Members Present (Steenbock, Bettine, Haskins, Maino, Ness, Pierce, Verhaagh, & Walschinski).

Bettine reported on the Veteran's Day ceremony at Flatley Park. He commented that it went well and that the recent improvements made to the park added nicely to the event. He also commented that the only negative remark he had heard regarding LZ Lambeau was that the Packers were making money on the event, which he said was not true. He stated that all events in the parking lot of the stadium had been free and the only admission was a \$10 fee for events inside the stadium which he did not feel was an unreasonable amount.

Haskins reported that there had been a parade in Door County during LZ Lambeau honoring 5 local soldiers killed in the Vietnam War. He also noted that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded a grant of \$1 million to the state of Wisconsin to upgrade security measures, make facility repairs and replace outdated equipment at the state veterans home in King, WI. The announcement of this was made by Representative Steve Kagen. Haskins note that Stadium View Bar & Grill held events honoring Wisconsin Vietnam veterans May 21st through May 23rd. He also noted that IQs Food, Music & Art on University Ave in Green Bay hosted an event featuring live music and free refreshments for all veterans past and present. Haskins informed the committee that The Leach Amphitheater in Oshkosh, WI would be hosting an event called "Waterfest". He noted that veterans would be admitted free to events all season. Haskins then shared a poem that he written about LZ Lambeau. Haskins asked the committee if they had noticed LZ Lambeau had gotten any national attention. Steenbock commented that her husband had heard it mentioned on a national news program but could not remember where it had been. Haskins also reported that the Brewers wore a special hat honoring veterans on Memorial Day. The hats were available for purchase online, but there had been complaints about the league only donating \$1 of the \$36.95 price to the Welcome Home Veterans Fund.

Pierce commented that he had also been to the Veteran's Day ceremony at Flatley Park. He shared that it had been very well done and that the speaker was very moving. Also, Pierce participated in the Memorial Day parade with the Vietnam veterans chapter. He reported that they had been the first unit behind the fire truck and through the entire length of the parade the crowd stood and cheered for them. They were followed by the Desert Storm veterans. At the end of the parade route the Vietnam veterans broke ranks and lined the curb. The Desert Storm veterans then did a cadence, turned and saluted them and shook all of their hands. He also noted that there was a ceremony at Voyager Park at 12:15 p.m. after the parade. Pierce reported that he had joined the American Legion Post and would notify them of "Veterans Day at the Brown County Fair".

Walschinski commented that he too had attended the LZ Lambeau event and found it to be very moving.

A brief conversation ensued regarding other states putting together events similar to LZ Lambeau.

Witkowski reported that he had spoken with a veteran who had had a chance to take an airplane ride to Washington DC. He said that there had been one guardian for every two veterans. Witkowski shared that the veteran had a great time on the trip and had been given a plaque. The plaque had a picture of the man and a group picture of the other veterans that had gone along on the trip. Polus shared that two members of his staff, Bonnie and Mary Lou, had also gone on the airplane trip as guardians. He noted that the Don and VFW had donated \$1000 to the Veteran's Office to make this possible. Polus reported that there may be two more flights this year. Steenbock inquired as to how many veterans were on each flight. Polus estimated about 80; 120, including guardians.

Polus mentioned that in a monthly meeting at the ADRC the local Office Director from the Census Bureau, who is a veteran, did a presentation. Polus commented that he had done a great job explaining what the census was all about.

11. Such other Matters as Authorized by Law.

Bettine mentioned that this summer will be the anniversary of the Korean War. There will be events planned for this all across the country.

12. Adjourn:

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY BETTINE AND SECONDED BY HASKINS TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:50 P.M. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anna R. Meert
Recording Secretary



**Honorary Chairman Scott Walker
invites you to join him for a
Thank You to our veterans, military, and families**

**Saturday, July 3, 2010
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Milwaukee County Zoo
10001 West Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226**

**Free Picnic
Patriotic Program
Supermarket of Benefits (WDVA)
United States Postal Service
(Operation: Season's Greetings Without the Snow)**

**Wristbands are required for free entrance into the Zoo
Register online at**

OperationFreedomWI.com

**The wristbands include free entrance into the Zoo, free parking, and free rides on the Zoo
train, Carousel, Zoo mobile, Sea Lion Show, and Dinosaur Adventure**

**Wristbands can be picked up at your local CVSO office from May 24 – June 25, or at Will Call,
which is open only on July 3, and is located at 10320 Watertown Plank Road, west of
Interstate I-94, you must sign up for Will Call at 414-297-9206**

**If you wish to donate or volunteer, call 414-297-9206 or sign up at
OperationFreedomWI.com**

HGPS – P.O. Box 94 – Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204, Operation FreedomWI.com, 414-297-9206

VETERANS' SERVICES

305 E. WALNUT STREET
P.O. BOX 23600
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305-3600

GERALD E. POLUS

PHONE (414) 448-4450 FAX (414) 448-4487

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

June 8, 2010

Veterans Day at the Brown County Fair – Saturday, August 21, 2010

Dear Veterans Service Organization Commander/Adjutant

The Veterans Recognition Sub-Committee of Brown County will again sponsor "Veterans Day at the Brown County Fair" on Saturday, August 21, with a Special Veterans Ceremony from 12 Noon – 1:00 pm. All Veterans and members of the Reserve and National Guard will have "FREE ADMISSION" that entire day for all events at the Fairgrounds (excluding rides).

We hope to do another mailing to you by June 30 with posters and tickets for your members. Please alert your members of this special event and date at your next meeting and through your newsletter.

Regards,

Brown County Veterans Recognition Committee

Jack Krueger –Chair

Jim Haskins

Don Bettine

John Walschinski

John Maino

Duane "Snake" Pierce

Sherry Steenbock

Kristen Verhaagh

Joe Witkowski